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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

FOR ACTION

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

For the 1996 annual session of the Executive Board
to be held at United Nations Headquarters
from 17 to 21 June 1996

SUMMARY

The present document contains the annotated provisional agenda for the 1996 annual session of the Executive Board. The annex provides the proposed timetable and organization of work for the session.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA*

Item 1: Opening statements by the President of the Board and the Executive Director

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work

Item 3: Report of the Executive Director

Item 4: Progress report on follow-up to the World Summit for Children

Item 5: Medium-term plan for the period 1996-1999

Item 6: Review of UNICEF policies and strategies on child protection

Item 7: Conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions

Item 8: Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO):

(a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1996

(b) GCO financial report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 1995

Item 9: Progress report on the Management Excellence Programme

Item 10: Harmonization of budget presentations**

Item 11: Draft report of the Secretary-General on enhancing internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes**

Item 12: Update on the audit of the Kenya country office**

Item 13: Reports on the meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/World Health Organization Joint Committee on Health Policy

Item 14: Report of the Working Group on Documentation

Item 15: Other matters

Item 16: Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Board

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* The fiftieth anniversary of UNICEF will be observed by the Board on the afternoon of Wednesday, 19 June. This is reflected in the timetable and organization of work.

** Oral report.

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening statements by the President of the Board and the Executive Director

Introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1996 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/38). The timetable and organization of work are provided in the annex.

The Bureau was consulted on the provisional agenda and timetable (CF/EB/1996/039). Thereafter, it was shared with Board members.

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be set aside for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item on the agenda will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

3. Report of the Executive Director
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/10 (Part I)]

The "Report of the Executive Director" is prepared in the context of decision 1995/5 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) taken at the first regular session of 1995 and the 1996 programme of work. Subjects have been consolidated and the report has been streamlined. Due to the timing of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, part II of the report, "Annual report to the Economic and Social Council", was submitted to the Board at its second regular session in April 1996.

This report provides an overview of developments in UNICEF in 1995 in the following areas: programmes; working with partners and allies; human resources management; management excellence; and finance and administration.

4. Progress report on follow-up to the World Summit for Children
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/15]

This report responds to Executive Board decisions 1994/A/2 (E/ICEF/1913/Rev.1) and 1995/14 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) concerning a mid-decade review of progress towards implementation of the commitments of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children.

In his report to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly on follow-up to the World Summit for Children, the Secretary-General suggested that the sixth anniversary of the World Summit, 30 September, would appear to be an

appropriate time to announce the status of progress of implementation of the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action at mid-decade (the end of 1995) and for a more complete assessment of achievements with regard to the mid-decade goals. In addition, he has asked UNICEF, as the lead agency for children, to prepare his report to the General Assembly, in close consultation with the specialized agencies and other organs of the United Nations.

This progress report is a preview of the Secretary-General's report. However, since the results of the mid-decade reviews were not available at the time of the preparation of the present report, the Executive Director will mention highlights in her introduction of the report to the Executive Board. The Executive Board may wish to consider and adopt the draft decision contained in the progress report.

5. Medium-term plan for the period 1996-1999

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.10]

This report responds to Executive Board decision 1994/A/1 (E/ICEF/1994/13/Rev.1) in that it is far briefer and more forward-looking than in the past, confining itself to strategic directions. It is a two-year rolling plan within a four-year horizon. Major areas covered in the report include the UNICEF Mission Statement; the changing environment; how the UNICEF of the future should look and work; programme strategies and actions; human resources management; and the financial plan. The Executive Board may wish to take note of the medium-term plan as a flexible framework for supporting UNICEF programmes and approve the financial plan for the period 1996-1999.

6. Review of UNICEF policies and strategies on child protection

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/14]

This review underscores the experience during 10 years of application of the UNICEF policy on children in especially difficult circumstances adopted by the Executive Board in 1986 (E/ICEF/1986/12, decision 1986/12). It addresses the question of the UNICEF response to circumstances and conditions that cause gross violations of the rights of children, subjecting them to serious risks and hazards. The review moves beyond the idea of "children in especially difficult circumstances" as describing certain categories of children in need of additional services to the idea of "especially difficult circumstances" and the need of "special protection measures" as an important perspective for designing UNICEF programmes of cooperation. The Executive Board may wish to consider and adopt the draft decision contained in the report.

7. Conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/16]

As requested by the Executive Board in its decision 1996/2 (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part I)) on the mission and strategies of UNICEF emergency services, adopted at its first regular session in January 1996, this report presents a conceptual framework, including guiding principles and methodologies, for UNICEF emergency interventions. The Executive Board may wish to take note of the report and provide guidance to the secretariat, as necessary.

8. Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO)

(a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1996
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11]

The Executive Board will have before it the GCO work plan and proposed budget for the 1996 season (fiscal year 1 May 1996 to 30 April 1997). The Board may wish to consider and approve the draft decisions relating to the GCO budget for the 1996/1997 fiscal year.

As decided by the Board at its first regular session in January 1996 (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part I), decision 1996/6), consideration of all issues relating to the follow-up exercise to the management review of GCO, including those identified in decisions 1995/20 and 1995/25 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1), has been deferred to the third regular session in September 1996.

(b) GCO financial report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 1995
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.12]

The Board will have before it for review the financial report for the 1994 season, 1 May 1994-30 April 1995.

9. Progress report on the Management Excellence Programme
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.9]

This report is submitted to the Executive Board in response to its decision 1995/25 in which the secretariat was requested to provide the Board with regular updates on progress made in the follow-up to the management review exercise.

10. Harmonization of budget presentations

In accordance with Executive Board decision 1995/37 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) on the harmonization of budget presentations, adopted at its third regular session in September 1995, the secretariat will present an oral progress report on steps needed for further harmonization, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Populaton Fund. Executive Board decision 1996/16 (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part II)), adopted at the second regular session in April 1996, is also relevant in this context.

11. Draft report of the Secretary-General on enhancing internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes

At its second regular session in April 1996, the Executive Board had before it the draft report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes (E/ICEF/1996/CRP.10). The Board decided to include this item on the agenda of the present session to provide an opportunity for those delegations which were unable to provide their comments at the April session.

In response to a request for a report describing the present capacity of UNICEF in internal audit and oversight, the Executive Director will present an oral report in this regard at the present session.

12. Update on the audit of the Kenya country office

Based on Executive Board decision 1995/27 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1), adopted at the third regular session in September 1995, the Executive Director will present a report on the audit of the Kenya country office under this agenda item. This will be presented orally.

13. Reports on the meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/World Health Organization Joint Committee on Health Policy

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/P/L.63 AND E/ICEF/1996/P/L.64]

Under this agenda item, the Executive Board will have the following for review: (a) the report of the fifth meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education, held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 6 and 7 May 1996; and (b) the report of the special session of the UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Committee on Health Policy, held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 15 and 16 May 1996.

As requested by the Executive Board at its first regular session of 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/4), the President of the Board will present the reports of the two joint committees to the Board, outlining the issues raised, the recommendations made and their context, and the future implications of the recommendations (E/ICEF/1996/CRP.21). The Executive Board may wish to take note of the reports of the joint committees "as guidelines for programming and for coordination and cooperation" between UNICEF and the two specialized agencies (E/ICEF/1994/13/Rev.1, decisions 1994/R.2/2 and 1994/R.2/3).

14. Report of the Working Group on Documentation

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/17]

Prepared in response to Executive Board decision 1996/5 (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part I)) on documentation, adopted at its first regular session in January 1996, this interim report provides an update on the progress made by the Working Group on this issue.

15. Other matters

The Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda item.

16. Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Board

The Executive Director and the President will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE 1996 ANNUAL SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 17-21 JUNE*

MONDAY, 17 JUNE	a.m./ p.m.	Item 1	Opening statements by the President of the Board and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Report of the Executive Director
		Item 4	Progress report on follow-up to the World Summit for Children
TUESDAY, 18 JUNE	a.m./ p.m.	Item 5	Medium-term plan for the period 1996-1999
		Item 6	Review of UNICEF policies and strategies on child protection
WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE	a.m.	Item 6 (cont'd)	Review of UNICEF policies and strategies on child protection (continued)
		Item 7	Conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions
	p.m.	Item 8	Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO): introduction of reports
			Observance of the fiftieth anniversary of UNICEF
THURSDAY, 20 JUNE	a.m./ p.m.	Item 8 (cont'd)	Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO) (continued):
			(a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1996
			(b) GCO financial report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 1995
		Item 9	Progress report on the Management Excellence Programme
		Item 10	Harmonization of budget presentations**
		Item 11	Draft report of the Secretary-General on enhancing internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes**
		Item 12	Update on the audit of the Kenya country office**
FRIDAY, 21 JUNE	a.m./ p.m.	Item 13	Reports on the meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/World Health Organization Joint Committee on Health Policy
		Item 14	Report of the Working Group on Documentation
		Item 15	Other matters
		Item 16	Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Board

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** Oral report.